



TIP OF THE SWORD

June 2, 2006

Incirlik Air Base, Turkey

One year later

**Cargo hub mission
celebrates anniversary**

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95

Days until inspection

Tip of the week: After every exercise go back and assess your section's weaknesses and ensure mistakes are not repeated during the next exercise.

On the cover: A line of C-17 Globemaster IIIs sit on the runway here. It has been one year since the Cargo Hub mission stood up. Team Incirlik has been breaking records the entire time. For details, see Pages 8 through 10 (Photo by Master Sgt. Bill Gomez)

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COMMANDER'S COMMENTS



By Col. "Tip" Stinnette
39th Air Base Wing commander

Four days, one year later

At 4:10 p.m. May 25 I asked everyone at the Memorial Day ceremony to look at their watches and note the time. I then told everyone that they were alive and to keep it that way through the supersized weekend ... four days later, you did it. Well done ... no one got bent or broken and you all are heroes! Now look at your watch right now and note the time ... you are alive ... so let's see if we can keep it that way for the next 101 days. The next 101 days will present us with a unique challenge ... we not only need to stay alive, but we also need to train our new teammates as we work through the summer personnel rotations. This will not be easy and will require a good amount of time and effort especially under the specter of an early September inspection. We ask that you commit yourselves to this important task and pay attention to ensuring our new teammates know their jobs.

One year ago we got a new mission, an air mobility mission. Today, more than 50 percent of the air cargo going into Iraq comes through Incirlik. Add that to our long enduring air refueling mission and we pack a significant air mobility punch. Con-

sider that a quarter of the coalition fuel requirement in Iraq comes through Turkey and combine that with the air mobility contribution from Incirlik and it is easy to see our strategic significance in the region. Our contribution is especially rewarding as the success of our multiple missions has required a unique blend of patches from Air Mobility Command to United States Air Forces in Europe ... from active duty to Air Guard/Reserve Component ... from Transportation Command to European Command ... from Air Force to Army ... from Turkish military to American military. You make it all look so easy. The good ones always do ... Tiger Woods never looks like he is swinging his driver hard but the golf ball always travels a mile when he hits it. Just like Tiger, you make the ballet of generating and receiving jets look like a stroll in the park. The Air Mobility Squadron blocks in and out, loads and unloads, and fixes the jets ... the Air Expeditionary Group and its squadrons alert, brief, and manage the aircrew support ... the Logistics Readiness Squadron refuels the jets, the Services Squadron billets and feeds the team ... the Security Forces Squadron protect the aircraft ... and the list goes on and on ... it's a ballet; it's the mastery of all the individual components of swinging a golf club and making it look as natural as taking a breath.

One year later, we are an installation with a vibrant mission and a decided purpose in our step. I got goose bumps May 25 as I asked for the "report" of our team at the Memorial Day ceremony. There we stood, a military formation, one team with many patches, with a unifying purpose, honoring those that have gone before us, and ensuring freedom's future ... all I can say is, "Wow, what difference a year can make!"

Commander's Action Line program

The Action Line program provides an avenue for the Incirlik community to voice concerns, complaints and opinions to Col. "Tip" Stinnette, 39th Air Base Wing commander.

Submit Action Lines by e-mailing action.line@incirlik.af.mil or calling the 39th Public Affairs Office at 676-6060. Concerns are edited to 300 words or less.

FPCON
Charlie

INFOCON
Alpha-plus

DIGITCON
Alpha

The 39th Air Base Wing Public Affairs staff prepares all editorial content in the *Tip of the Sword*. The 39th ABW Public Affairs Office (Unit 7090, Box 135, APO AE 09824-5153) is located in Building 833, Room 275. **Submissions:** The editor or other *Tip of the Sword* staff will edit or re-write material for clarity brevity or to conform with the Associated Press Style Guide, local policy and Air Force style as required by Air Force Instruction 35-101. Contributions for the *Tip of the Sword* can be made through e-mail to tip.sword@incirlik.af.mil. The editor can be reached at 676-6060. **Deadlines:** Submission deadlines are Wednesday, nine days, prior to publication date. If submissions are publishable, they run based on space available and priority. **Disclaimer:** The *Tip of the Sword* is printed by Kemal Matbaasi, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written agreement with the 39th Air Base Wing. This funded Air Force magazine is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military overseas. Unless otherwise noted, photographs are Air Force photos. The *Tip of the Sword* uses information from the Armed Forces Information Service, Air Force News Service, U.S. Forces in Europe News Service and other sources. Contents of *Tip of the Sword* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense or Department of the U.S. Air Force. Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. **Contact Information:** To reach the 39th Air Base Wing Public Affairs staff, call 676-3217, fax 676-6492, e-mail tip.sword@incirlik.af.mil or stop by Building 833, Room 275.

Remembering the meaning of Memorial Day

By Senior Master Sgt.
Thomas Benson
39th Comptroller Squadron

What is Memorial Day? To some, it is the unofficial start of summer, a time for picnics, trips to beaches, and watching the Indianapolis 500. For others, it is just another three-day weekend. But really, why do we celebrate it? Do Americans, as a whole, understand its importance? And what have we done to bring back the importance of this sacred day?

Very simply, Memorial Day is a day for us to remember those who died in the service of our nation. Several communities claim to have originated Memorial Day. In 1966, the U.S. government proclaimed Waterloo, New York, as the birthplace of the holiday. The people of Waterloo first observed Memorial Day on May 5, 1866, to honor soldiers killed in the Civil War. Businesses closed, people decorated soldiers' graves; and flags were flown at half-mast. In 1868, three years after the end of the Civil War, an organization of Union veterans (known as the Grand Army of the Republic), established "Decoration Day" as a time for the nation to decorate the graves of the war dead with flowers. They proclaimed May 30 as the day of observance. Although historians do not know why this date was chosen, one possible explanation was because flowers would be in bloom all over the country at that time.

The ceremony that year was the first large gathering in the country. It occurred at Arlington ceremony, where nearly 5,000 people descended upon the grounds near the mourning-draped veranda of the Arlington mansion, once the home of Gen. Robert E. Lee. Various Washington officials, including Gen. and Mrs. Ulysses S. Grant, presided. After speeches, children from the Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphan Home and members of the Grand Army of the Republic, made their way through the cemetery, strewing flowers on both Union and Confederate graves, reciting prayers and singing hymns. The Grand Army's leader, Maj. Gen. John A. Logan ordered his men to decorate graves "with the choicest flowers of springtime." He urged,

"Yet, we must try to honor them — not for their sakes alone, but for our own."

— Ronald Reagan
(May 31, 1982)

"We should guard their graves with sacred vigilance. Let pleasant paths invite the coming and going of reverent visitors and fond mourners. Let no neglect, no ravages of time, testify to the present or to the coming generations that we have forgotten as a people the cost of a free and undivided republic."

But have Americans nowadays forgotten the true meaning and traditions of Memorial Day? Traditional Memorial Day observances diminished over the years. At many cemeteries, the graves of the fallen are increasingly ignored and neglected. Most people no longer remember proper flag etiquette. While there are towns and cities that still hold Memorial Day parades, many have not held a parade in decades. Some people think the day is for honoring any and all dead, and not just those fallen in service to our country.

There are a few notable exceptions. Since the late 50s on the Thursday before Memorial Day, the 1,200 soldiers of the 3rd U.S. Infantry place small American flags at each of the more than 260,000 gravestones at Arlington National Cemetery. They then patrol 24 hours a day during the weekend to ensure that each flag remains standing. In 1951, the Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts of St. Louis, Mo., began placing flags on the 150,000

graves at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery as an annual Good Turn, a practice that continues to this day. More recently, beginning in 1998, on the Saturday before the observed day for Memorial Day, the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts place a candle at each of about 15,300 grave sites of soldiers buried at Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park in Virginia. And in 2004, Washington, D.C., held its first Memorial Day parade in more than 60 years.

In an effort to help re-educate and remind Americans of the true meaning of Memorial Day, the "National Moment of Remembrance" resolution was passed in December 2000. It asked that at 3 p.m. local time, all Americans should "voluntarily and informally observe, in their own way, a moment of remembrance and respect, pausing from whatever they are doing for a moment of silence or listening to "Taps." This Moment of Remembrance is a step in the right direction to returning the meaning back to the day.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Bryan Bouchard
Airmen and Soldiers render salutes at a deployed Memorial Day retreat ceremony.

For me, honoring our fallen heroes has been a part of my life. My grandfather was a patriotic World War II veteran. He instilled in me the importance of paying tribute to those who gave their lives to make our nation what it is today. As a child, the stationary flag pole he had in his front yard seemed to me to be 100 feet tall with a huge American flag on top. When I drove by the house he once lived, the flag pole is still there, maybe fifteen-feet tall at most. It has been neglected since his passing, and it is now rusted and void of Ol' Glory.

Memorial Day is a day of remembrance. We only need to go to one of the many great presidential speeches to help remind us of the importance of this solemn day.

"Yet, we must try to honor them — not for their sakes alone, but for our own. And if words cannot repay the debt we owe these men, surely with our actions we must strive to keep faith with them and with the vision that led them to battle and to final sacrifice ... Their lives remind us that freedom is not bought cheaply."

— Ronald Reagan (May 31, 1982)

I hope you had a safe and joyous Memorial Day weekend. Don't forget to honor all the men and women who have sacrificed and made the day possible.

YOUR TURN

How do you support the Cargo Hub mission?

"I'm supply, so I basically support the mission by supplying the 728th Air Mobility Squadron with whatever they need."



Airman
Angelica Cobb, 39th Logistic Readiness Squadron

"I provide aircraft maintenance and support."



Tech. Sgt.
Aaron Gilbert, 728th Air Mobility Squadron

"I protect the flightline that the jets are housed on."



Airman 1st Class Bronsha Smith, 39th Security Forces Squadron

"I make sure that the members who work with the cargo hub get their mail."



Senior Airman Chauncey Hunter, 39th Communications Squadron

"I up and download the aircraft."



Staff Sgt.
Sarah Earb, 728th AMS

To submit a question for "Your Turn," call 676-6060 or e-mail tip.sword@incirlik.af.mil

USAFE

June 2006

Cross-Check

Ensuring Freedom's Future

"History does not long entrust the care of freedom to the weak or the timid."

Dwight D. Eisenhower


USAFE has been entrusted with an incredible responsibility—to defend freedom and democracy. We've performed this mission flawlessly for more than 60 years and continue to rise to the occasion. Successful transformation, fostering theater security cooperation, and winning the Global War on Terrorism remain our current challenges and are essential to freedom's future.

Our job is to deliver full-spectrum options to our Combatant Commander. To do this, we must transition from a Cold War defensive posture to an expeditionary force that promotes theater-wide security and stability. Through both transformation and engagement, USAFE strives to build and strengthen existing partnerships with Eastern European and African nations. We seek to improve and bolster the security capabilities of those regions—working side-by-side with air forces from every nation within our AOR to establish friendship and trust.

NATO is also transitioning from a common defense force to a security-focused organization and USAFE moves lock-step with it to ensure we have the collective capability to counter emerging threats. In cyberspace, we're tying together more communication nodes to give U.S. and NATO commanders real-time command and control. We also fly and train with new NATO partners from Romania and Bulgaria. Our NATO Response Force (NRF) commitments will require this interdependence. Together, we maximize our individual strengths to achieve common goals.

Our team's commitment to excellence knows no boundaries. Our medical personnel move our sick and injured from the front lines to safety at record-breaking speed. Our Airmen enable and teach the new Iraqi Air Force. We assist with humanitarian operations in Africa by transporting Rwandan troops to the troubled Darfur region of Sudan. We are "Freedom's Guardians," and work to ensure a free way of life for people all over the globe.

"Ensuring Freedom's Future" is more than a catchphrase. It captures everything we do for our country, our allies, and partner nations. Enabling robust security and stability in areas of volatility within the global community has never been more important. Through proactive engagement, we'll be visible and flexible in order to prevent, deter, and contain emerging threats. Just as Eisenhower's words challenge, we are up to the task. Our investment today sets the stage for tomorrow's victory.


General Tom Hobbins


CMSgt Gary Coleman

Incirlik blotter

Good Job! No ARI's from May 24 to Wednesday. The wing is now in DIGITCON Alpha. To review measures please check out the Source.

(Blotter provided by the 39th Security Forces Squadron)

Team Incirlik, Ensuring Freedom's Future



MEMORIAL DAY CELEBRATED

Photos by Master Sgt. Bill Gomez

Members of the 39th Contracting Squadron salute during the Memorial Day Ceremony May 25 at Arkadas park.



Staff Sgt. Shana Stewart (left) 39th Medical Group, Senior Airman Joshua Covill (middle) 39th Communication Squadron and Senior Airman Joshua Murphy 39th Security Forces Squadron fold the flag during the Memorial Day ceremony.



Photo by Master Sgt. Bill Gomez

Nyle Christensen, Department of Defense Dependent Schools teacher, plays "Taps" at the opposite side of the formation from his son, also playing "Taps", at Incirlik's Memorial Day ceremony May 25 at Arkadas Park.

Making air connections

Courtesy of the 39th Air Base Wing
Historian's Office

The 90th Expeditionary Air Refueling Squadron here performs air-to-air refueling as their vital contribution to the War on Terrorism. In May they flew 56 sorties offloading more than 3.87 million pounds of fuel (equating to more than 577,000 gallons) under normal operating conditions. Refuelers today are capable of transferring fuel with an amazingly high degree of precision and safety, a task that has evolved over the years.

The first air-to-air refueling in U.S. air power was little more than a stunt. On November 21, 1921, a wing walker named Wesley May climbed from one aircraft to another with a five-gallon gas can strapped to his back. Needless to say the Army Air Corps realized that this was not the most practical way of refueling an airplane in flight. Subsequently in 1923, the U.S. Army undertook tests at Rockwell Field, San Diego, Calif., to test a more practical way to lower a hose from one airplane to refuel another in flight.

The original method consisted of a bi-plane outfitted as a tanker equipped with a 50-foot length of hose. The 'tanker' would fly above the receiver airplane and lower the hose. The person in the rear seat of the receiving airplane would grab the hose and connect it to the aircraft. This achievement prompted many private and military pilots to attempt in-flight refueling, primarily to establish long duration flying records.

In January of 1929 an aircraft name *Question Mark* set a record by staying airborne for more than seven days refueling 42 times in the air. It was piloted by (then) Maj. Carl Spaatz and Capt. Ira Eaker. Later in their respective military careers, Spaatz became the first U.S. Air Force Chief of Staff and Eaker achieved deserved notoriety as the commander of the 8th Air Forces responsible for the bombardment of Nazi Germany. Also on this flight were two lieutenants and a staff sergeant who operated the hose. Today, we view this method of aerial refueling as inefficient and hazardous to say the least, yet it would remain the standard method until 1949.

World War II brought about a hiatus in aerial refueling technology development as combatants sought to develop extremely long-range aircraft with large internal fuel capacity. By 1948, General Curtis LeMay be-

came head of the Strategic Air Command (SAC) and made aerial refueling a major goal because he realized that the new jet-powered bombers consumed far more fuel than the reciprocating-engine predecessors. The emergence of the Cold War necessitated the need to fly from the U.S. to targets deep in the Soviet Union and back. Existing aerial refueling systems had severe drawbacks, particularly, the hoses could not transfer large amounts of fuel and could not operate at higher speeds.

The Boeing Company's "Boeing boom" system was the device that leads us to think of aerial refueling the way we do today. It consisted of a large-diameter pipe connected to the rear of a B-29 Superfortress and fitted with small wings at the end. The boom was lowered and "flown" to a connector on the receiver aircraft. This allowed fuel transfers to take place at higher air speeds and, more importantly, allowed more than six times as much fuel to flow per minute. This device enabled a SAC B-50 named *Lucky Lady II* to project U.S. air power to the world when on March 2, 1949, it completed the first non-stop around the world flight demonstrating to our adversaries that the U.S. can hit them anywhere and return.

Today it is considered 'routine' for two aircraft to fly in a precise formation and maintain the precision while physically connected by a boom passing volatile fuel. This is a credit to the aircrews' expertise in performing their mission with the track record of safety they have attained.



Courtesy photo

Although aerial refueling looks easy, it takes a lot of skill and training to make the connection needed to pass fuel.

IN THE NEWS

Storknesting details

Are you pregnant and a new arrival to the Incirlik Military Community? Call the Women's Health clinic today to continue your obstetrical care.

Because of the labor and delivery options available here, expectant mothers' have been directed to Storknest (relocate) to Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany, to ensure a U.S. standard of obstetric care.

This relocation occurs between 34 and 36 weeks gestation. Contact the women's health clinic for an appointment or information.

Tax center

The tax center hours of operation are Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Building 869 until June 14. Call 676-2040 for an appointment.

Commander's radio show

The Commander's Corner call-in radio show, is aired live on AFN 1590 every Thursday at noon.

Call Col. "Tip" Stinnette at 676-8390 with your questions, concerns or comments.

Turkish cooking classes

There will be a traditional Turkish cuisine cooking class every Thursday at 6 p.m. at the health and wellness center. Cost is \$25 per month for four classes.

For details, call the community center at 676-6966.

Housing town hall

The next housing town hall meeting will be June 28 at the base theater at 5 p.m. All base personnel, especially housing residents are encouraged to attend.

Preschool playgroup

There will be a preschool playgroup at the youth center every Tuesday through June 13 from 9:30 to 11 a.m. The playgroup is open to infant through four year olds with parent supervision. This is a chance for parents and children to meet others in the Incirlik community.

For details, call 676-6452.

Going beyond your average teens

By Lori Burling Alves

39th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

Every teenager is extraordinary. But teens from military families are extra-extraordinary to Chris O'Shaughnessy.

"Military kids have a special place in my heart. Being a military brat myself, I understand some of the things they're going through," said Mr. O'Shaughnessy. "They are some of the most adaptable kids you'll ever meet, but at the same time — they spend so much time adapting and blending in, they sometimes have a hard time finding themselves. I think Club Beyond can help them do that."

Mr. O'Shaughnessy is the new community director at Incirlik Air Base for Club Beyond, a youth ministry for middle and high school teens who are part of military families. The program is geared toward leveraging and bringing different support programs together and is open to all the approximately 250 teens living at Incirlik.

"Club Beyond is made up of kids from all faiths or no faith. It's a relationship ministry. We need people. We're built that way. It gives teens another outlet," said O'Shaughnessy. "I was part of Club Beyond when I was in high school. I know what a difference it can make just to have a group of people that care about you. That's why I jumped at the chance to launch Club Beyond here ... and there is a need for it."

Club Beyond was established by military chaplains who saw a need for a youth ministry for the more than 300,000 sons and daughters of armed forces overseas and the United States — but especially teens living overseas. The program, sponsored by Military Community Youth Ministries, began in Germany and currently operates at Air Force, Army and Navy bases around the world in countries such as Germany, Belgium, Korea, Japan, the Netherlands, England, Italy and now Turkey.

"This program is going to make a world of difference at Incirlik," said Chaplain (Capt.) James Taylor, 39th Air Base Wing senior Protestant chaplain. "It's going to help in so many areas — our teens, our teachers, our parents ... even me and my teenage son. If a teenager needs help they may not always go to their parents or chaplain. That's why a program like Club Beyond is important."

Officials at Incirlik have been pushing for the program for several years. Although Club Beyond staff members are often contracted with the government to work on bases, much of the program thrives from volunteer work and donations. It wasn't until March of this year that final approval was given to start the program at Incirlik. The program launched on May 29, but officially kicks-off when the new school year begins.

The program includes two weekly meetings, social activities such as skits and music, a spring break service trip, ski trips, lock-

ins, a summer camp in Italy, and even building a 50-foot banana split. Each month, topics discussed at the meetings will be geared toward something a teen may encounter. For instance, teens will discuss family issues in November to gear up for the holidays, relationships and love will be discussed in February, and saying goodbye will be the focus in May.

"In this day and age we have a lot to compete with. Teens like their video games and electronics. We have to be very creative so these kids want to be a part of it," said Mr. O'Shaughnessy. Incirlik currently offers study groups and socials on Friday nights geared toward teens, but Chaplain Taylor said Club Beyond will go further.

"Chris has already been to the schools and met some kids. He's the piece that's going to put everything together for these kids. The more they get to know him, they're going to understand that he's in their court," said Chaplain Taylor.

Mr. O'Shaughnessy, while interning for Club Beyond and has traveled to 48 countries in Europe, Africa, and North and South America doing missionary work.

"It's a privilege to be a part of these kids lives. I'm not preaching to them, I'm just giving them the information to make their own decisions. The only, and best thing, I can do for these teens is set an example. Life is fantastic and I want to show them how to use it."



Photo by Airman 1st Class Nathan Lipscomb

Soaring high

Andy Wilson pins the Eagle Scout Medal on his son, Joey Wilson, during an Eagle Scout Court of Honor Ceremony held in recognition of Joey's achievement, May 25. Only three out of every 100 Boy Scouts ever achieve the rank of Eagle Scout.



Photos by Master Sgt. Bill Gomez

A line of C-17 Globemaster IIIs sit on the runway preparing for takeoff when the Cargo Hub mission began a year ago. Since then nearly 58 percent of all cargo that goes into Iraq by air comes through Incirlik. For more photos featuring members who support the cargo hub see Page 10.

Cargo Hub — ‘Moving Supplies

By 1st Lt. Jim Burnham
728th Air Mobility Squadron

Teamwork. Webster’s defines the word as “work done by several associates with each doing a part, but all subordinating personal prominence to the efficiency of the whole.” Here this definition has been epitomized and taken to the point of redefinition under the “Total Force” concept. June marks the one-year anniversary of the expanded mobility mission at Incirlik – the Cargo Hub.

Incirlik’s Cargo Hub is total force teamwork at its best, with some of the finest units in the Air Force comprising the team: the 728th Air Mobility Squadron, the 385th Air Expeditionary Group, and the 39th Air Base Wing. Each unit subordinates its prominence for the efficiency of the whole. Active Duty, Guard, and Reserve Airmen, civilian personnel, and Turkish nationals make up this team. The cargo hub has seen rotations of Guard, Reserve, and active duty deployments from all over the globe: diverse locations ranging from Ohio to England, Guam to Hawaii. Guardsmen and Reservists from 35 states and two territories have deployed here in support of the cargo hub mission.

“We just couldn’t accomplish this mission without the support of our deployed troops,” said Lt. Col. Chris Kulas, 728th AMS commander. “These Total Force Airmen come in here and from the moment their boots hit the ground they’re moving this mission full speed ahead. They have been vital to our success the past year.”

One year ago the cargo “hub and spoke” mission moved here from Rhein Main, Germany because that base was closing. Incirlik serves as the hub receiving cargo from the States via commercial 747 aircraft. This cargo is downloaded, processed and then reloaded on C-17 Globemaster IIIs operated by the 817th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron for delivery to Iraqi airfields by way of the spokes.

The move from Germany brought several efficiencies to the mobility operation to include better weather, fewer quiet hour restrictions and location — Incirlik is closer to the fight. Instead of flying 10 hours round trip from Germany to deliver 18 pallets to Iraq, it now takes a mere three hours. The cost savings in C-17 flying hours alone over the past year is approximately \$180 million not to mention the ability to deliver the same amount of cargo with six C-17s instead of 10 operating from Germany.

The hub and spoke concept of operations mitigates the number of convoys used to support our deployed forces in Iraq. C-17s deliver the cargo directly to various airfields throughout Iraq, cutting approximately 42 convoys per month. That’s taking more than 2,000 trucks a month taken off Iraqi roads and preventing countless U.S. casualties.

“I’m proud to be part of this Total Force effort to support our military fighting the war on terror in Iraq. The greatest accomplishment of this airlift hub is that every time we fly a sortie, we keep a convoy of trucks and drivers off of the dangerous roads of Iraq,” said Col. John Zazworsky, 385th AEG commander, “The combined efforts of



ewmembers and 728th Air Mobility Squadron Airmen load cargo on the back of an aircraft here recently.

s, Saving Lives'

the 728th AMS, 385th AEG and 39th ABW contribute directly to saving American lives — every day."

Saving lives is what the Cargo Hub team does, and has recently literally coined the term. The new cargo hub coins were designed with the slogan "Moving Supplies, Saving Lives," reflecting not only the convoy mitigation of the hub, but also the delivery of crucial add-on armor in support of vehicles still on the road.

"We chose this slogan because we all see in the news the fruits of our labor," said Capt. Aaron Scheer, 728th Aerial Port Flight commander. "When an IED attack occurs somewhere on a truck or humvee and the driver survives, chances are we made that happen."

The total numbers the cargo hub has generated are astounding as well. Nearly 58 percent of all cargo that goes into Iraq by air comes through Incirlik. A total of 43,279 pallets came through the port the past year, before being sent downrange — a total of 79,316 short tons of supplies for the multinational forces in Iraq, and the number keeps growing daily.

"As long as we have troops on the ground that need re-supply, then the Incirlik Cargo Hub will be a key part of the logistics effort," said Colonel Zazworsky.

In light of the overwhelming success of the mission and the great teamwork of Team Incirlik, the future of the cargo hub looks bright.

"We have plans approved and will soon start construction on a new consolidated pallet storage yard, which will make us even more effective as a whole," said Colonel Kulas. "We look forward to an-



A member of the 728th Air Mobility Squadron signals a loader to bring the load back while loading an aircraft.

other year of success and partnership here at Team Incirlik."

"Incirlik Airmen should hold their heads high in the month of June knowing that they have accomplished something great over the past year," said Col. "Tip" Stinnette, 39th ABW commander. "Regardless of your unit patch and Air Force specialty, everyone on this installation has contributed to this Total Force team. From airfield management to lodging management, vehicle and AGE maintenance, fuels, command post, in sum the entire Incirlik community has had a role to play in supporting the cargo hub and we can proud."

"I'm proud to have served here during this time," said Lt. Col. Scott Gericke, 728th AMS operations officer. "We've added to the outstanding mission of air mobility ops and increased the effectiveness of that capability."



Photo by Master Sgt. Bill Gomez



Cargo Hub snapshots

(Above) More than 43,279 pallets came through the port last year before being sent downrange

(Top left) A total of 79,316 short tons of supplies was sent through here.

(Top right) The cargo can't get off the ground without ensuring everything from the tires to the windshield are checked.

(Right) A 728th Air Mobility Squadron maintainer performs a pre-flight inspection.





Photo by Master Sgt. Bill Gomez

Herky Housing, pictured above, will soon be completely renovated along with Eagle Housing.

Base housing improving for the future

Lt. Col. Scott Warner

39th Civil Engineer Squadron commander

Home is where the Air Force sends you – and that can be a very good thing, especially if you are stationed here.

Incirlik Air Base has begun a multi-year housing improvement program that involves construction and renovation of all our housing areas ... not to worry our stellar housing team is ready to ensure the impact to our families is minimized, while the improvements to the housing will be spectacular.

The 39th Civil Engineer Squadron is responsible for managing both the construction projects and the Incirlik Housing Office. There is a team in place to ensure the best possible balance is struck between the unavoidable inconveniences that are part of any major construction project and the continued comfort of base members.

There are currently housing projects awarded totaling more than \$40 million. Every house on this installation will be touched over the next four years, either rebuilt, expanded or renovated. This will be a huge improvement for the quality of life for our families.

There is an ongoing renovation project in the unaccompanied officer's quarters in Herky Housing. Thirty-two UOQs are completely renovated and a second phase of an additional 32 UOQs will begin soon. In coming years, all enlisted dormitories will be replaced to meet or exceed enhanced Air Force standards.

In family housing, the old Eagle Housing units (150 houses) will be demolished and 100 new four bedroom houses will be constructed. The new Eagle Housing's projected completion date is September 2008. This will be a three-phase project and the first phase (22 houses) is anticipated to be completed by Summer 2007.

In Phantom housing, a project has been recently awarded to provide upgrades and renovations to 235 housing units. The project has been divided into seven phases and is scheduled to begin in November and complete in September 2008. The phases have been built incorporating entire cul-de-sacs to isolate the construction from the rest of the housing area.

Another project is scheduled in 2008 to renovate the rest of the houses in the Phantom area as well as the entire Falcon area. All

units will be either renovated or upgraded from two-bedroom units to three- and four-bedroom units.

While all of these housing improvements are underway, some difficulties in housing newly arriving personnel are projected during this period, especially for those with three- or four-bedroom requirements. To minimize these projected difficulties, the Housing Office is contacting all projected inbound personnel. The information received from personnel, sometimes up to eight months in advance of their arrival, is essential to planning for their housing needs to be met during this difficult period.

The intent is to keep the incoming personnel informed of the housing situation and to anticipate any difficulties in acquiring housing that they might have.

In order to help alleviate any housing problems we might encounter for incoming personnel, the installation commander has approved extended temporary living allowance for up to 30 days for people departing Incirlik currently occupying a three- or four-bedroom unit. This will allow these high-demand units to be available sooner reducing the time incoming personnel need to reside in temporary living facilities. This program is currently in effect until June 30 and maybe extended if necessary to improve the ability for incoming personnel to move into their family housing units.

Due to our force protection requirement to house everyone on the installation, there may be times when personnel may need to be relocated out of an area scheduled for renovation. Every attempt will be made to accomplish these by attrition as people move naturally out of housing. Anyone directly affected by the renovations in the Phantom area will be contacted directly by the housing management office to discuss their options. As we close in on specific construction and renovation milestones, we will conduct town hall meetings to ensure everyone is informed and armed with the facts.

The 39 CES stands ready to provide the population of Incirlik with the best possible housing to enhance the quality of life for our families. Our goal is to execute projects over the next few years, to upgrade and renovate all of our houses with minimal disruption to the residents. Your cooperation and assistance will be greatly appreciated as we strive to make your Air Force house a home.

Incirlik Heroes

"You made my day!" Have you said this recently to someone at Incirlik? We want to know about it!

The *Tip of the Sword* will now feature a weekly spotlight on a person living the Air Force core value of service before self. This person may be someone who provided great customer care, a neighbor who helped out in a tough predicament, or a volunteer who's making a difference and deserves a pat on the back.

"Mrs. Ruiz, there are no words, no concepts, no expressions that could capture the essence of your dedication to our school! You just need to know that your commitment, love, support and "I can do it" attitude has not gone unnoticed by all of us at Incirlik American High School. You should be given the "Parent of the Year Award." You deserve it! The students, staff, and I wish to thank you for all the hours, smiles, helpful hands and spirit you have given to our school. Bravo, Mrs. Ruiz (aka Ryan's mother)! You are simply the best!!" — Leslie Revis, Spanish Teacher, Incirlik American High School

To see a valuable Incirlik team member — active duty, civilian, or family member — in the spotlight, contact Julie Halstead at 676-6755 or e-mail Julie.halstead@incirlik.af.mil.

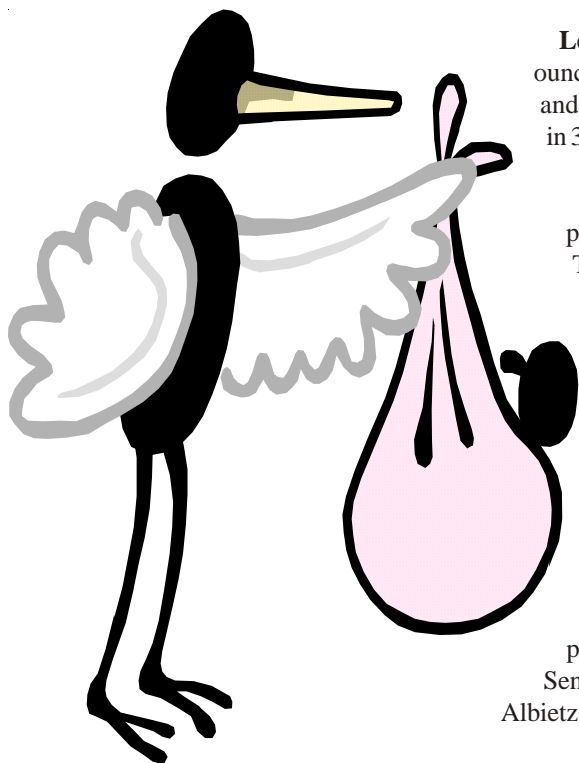


Photo by Senior Airman Patrice Clarke

Brandi Ruiz, a volunteer at the high school, tutors Oscar Kruse, a ninth grader in math Wednesday at the school.

Heir Force

Virginia Elizabeth Portis, 7 pounds 8 ounces, born May 5 to Lt. Col. Jonathan and Maricar Portis, 39th Medical Group.



Lexie Jordan Allen, 7 pounds 10 ounces, born April 27 to Maj. Simona and Master Sgt. Timothy Allen, both in 39th MDG.

Tyler Norman Thomas, 8 pounds, born April 28 to Captains Theresa and William Thomas, 39th Communications Squadron and 39th Maintenance Squadron respectively.

Aubrey Rose Brown, 7 pounds 13 ounces, born May 4 to Senior Airman Ronald and Jamie Brown, 39th Security Forces.

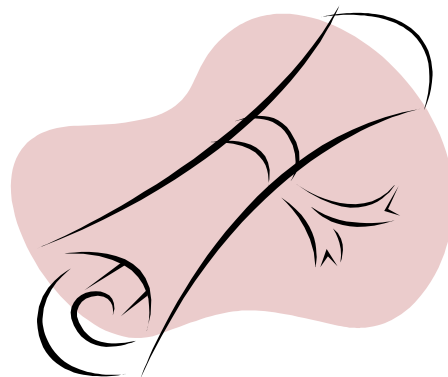
Jadah Ashley Dawn Albietz, 8 pounds 9 ounces, born May 17 to Senior Airman Albert and Amber Albietz, 39th Civil Engineer Squadron

Scholarship opportunity

The Company Grade Officers Council's \$150 scholarship, awarded to an E-6 or below who is registered in class and writes the best essay on a given topic.

The topic this quarter is, "Why do you think we have a problem with ARIs at Incirlik and what solutions do you recommend to eliminate this issue?"

Write two to three pages, double-spaced with Times New Roman size 12 font. The essays will be graded based on insightful content, grammar, spelling and syntax. The scholarship will be awarded at July's promotion ceremony. Deadline is June 26. Please attach your essays via e-mail to 2nd Lt. John Fogle at john.fogle@incirlik.af.mil.



Taking a dip the safe way

Courtesy of the Safety Office

It's warming up at Incirlik and the pool is one way to cool off. Here are some pool safety tips to follow:

- Never leave small children unsupervised—even for a few seconds.

- Put fencing around the pool area to keep people from using the pool without your knowledge.

- Keep children away from pool filters, as the suction force may injure them or prevent them from surfacing.

- Be sure all pool users know how to swim. Learners should be accompanied by a good swimmer.

- Don't swim alone or allow others to swim alone.

- Check the pool area regularly for glass bottles, toys or other potential accident hazards.

- Keep CD players, radios and other electrical devices away from pools or nearby wet surfaces.

- Don't allow anyone who has been drinking alcohol to use the pool.

- Stay out of the pool during rain or lightning storms.

- Never dive into an above-ground pool and check the water depth before plunging into an in-ground pool. Keep clear of the area near a diving board.

- Don't swim if you're tired or have just finished eating.



Photo by Senior Airman Larry Reid Jr.

The base pool offers a way for base members to cool off. When swimming, remember to think safety.

Fitness Center Classes

Monday

Cycling — 6 a.m.

Step aerobics w/weights and bands — 11:30 a.m.

Pilates — 4:30 p.m.

Step Aerobics w/weights and bands — 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday

Cycling — 11:30 a.m.

Cardio kick and aerobics — 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday

Cycling — 6 a.m.

Spinning — 8:45 a.m.

Step aerobics w/weights and bands — 11:30 a.m.

Low impact aerobics — 3:15 p.m.

Pilates — 4:30 p.m.

Step Aerobics w/weights and bands — 5:30 p.m.

Thursday

Abs and back — 6 a.m.

Cycling — 11:30 a.m.

Cardio kick and aerobics — 5:30 p.m.

Friday

Cycling — 6 a.m.

Step aerobics — 8:45 a.m.

Step aerobics w/weights and bands — 11:30 a.m.

Step aerobics — 5:30 p.m.

Saturday

Step, abs and back — 9:30 a.m.

**Congratulations to
the 728th Air
Mobility
Squadron
for winning
the
Intramural
Volleyball
Championship May
24.**





Ask MEHMET

By Mehmet Birbiri, *Host Nation Adviser*

Question: Mehmet, I have heard that Tarsus is so close to Adana. Would you tell me how to go there and what to expect to see there?

Response: As you say, Tarsus is so close to Adana. It is only 40 km west of Adana, 50 km (about 35 miles) west of the base.

Going to Tarsus is very easy. At the end of the Alley, turn right toward Adana. That is the D-400 highway. Drive on that highway through Adana. As soon as you pass Adana, you will see the road signs showing Tarsus and Mersin. Drive about 30 miles, as far as the traffic intersection with an overpass and signs showing to turn right to Ankara. Turn right at that intersection. After a mile or so, the sign will show you to turn left for Tarsus. That turn will lead you to the heart of Tarsus.

In addition to being the birthplace of the Apostle Paul, Tarsus has a very long and troublesome history. Tarsus has been continuously inhabited for the last 5,000 years. Its history goes back to the early Bronze Age (3000-2500 B.C.).

Alexander the Great came through Tarsus in 333 B.C. and got very sick. He almost died. He became sick either from swimming in the frigid waters of the Cydnus river (called the Berdan River now) which flows through the city, or from a fever from the malaria-ridden area. During the first century, pirates annoyed the area until it came under Roman rule. The Roman Emperor Julius Caesar visited Tarsus in 47 B.C.

Six years after that visit in 41 B.C., another Roman Emperor, Marcus Antonius sailed to Tarsus to meet with Cleopatra, the Queen of Egypt.

As I mentioned, Tarsus is the hometown of St. Paul and it became a very important Christian center.

Tarsus enjoyed enormous prosperity during the Byzantine rule. It was a port city then. It is silted up by the Berdan River and the sea is about 10 miles away from Tarsus now. Tarsus changed hands several times between the Christian and Moslem forces until the Ottomans held it in 1515.

The first thing you could see in Tarsus is Cleopatra's Gate. When you drive into Tar-



Photo by Master Sgt. Bill Gomez

The waterfalls at Tarsus, pictured above, offer visitors a picturesque view and a place to relax and enjoy lunch before continuing their sightseeing.

sus, the road will lead you to the gate. Cleopatra's gate was part of the city walls and the main entrance to the city. It is believed that Cleopatra used that entrance when she came to Tarsus to meet Marcus Antonius.

Southeast of the gate you will see the Tarsus American High School established in 1888 by American missionaries. This school has an excellent reputation throughout Turkey. The school was founded on top of a mound with the ruins of a Roman hippodrome. That mound should be excavated for more archeological findings.

Go back to the main street and look for the signs showing St. Paul's well. You will drive through an old narrow street to go to the well. After driving less than half a mile, you will reach an open area with several gift shops around. The foundation of St. Paul's house and the famous well in its yard will welcome you on your left hand side. The well is 103 feet deep and still operational. You can pull your own water from the well. In fact, several years ago an envoy for the Pope came and blessed the site and the well. The site has become a holy site and the water of the well has become holy water.

When they were digging the ground for the foundation for constructing a building several years ago, the historic Roman Road was discovered coincidentally. The archeolo-

gists continued to excavate and found out a big section of the Roman Road going through Tarsus. Excavation still continues today and you can see the historic Roman Road right behind the St Paul's site.

If you feel tired and need a break by now, it is time to go to the Tarsus Waterfalls and relax for a while. Go back to the main street and turn left toward Adana and look for the sign SELALE (means waterfalls) and turn left at that sign. Or you can ask any local to point out the way for you. After driving for about a mile or so, you will see the beautiful waterfalls, a very pleasant location for lunch or some snacks. There are several restaurants, cafes and a four-star hotel around the waterfalls.

The Berdan (Cydnus) river used to run through Tarsus and flood the city frequently. In order to prevent the floods, the river was diverted and the waterfalls were created during those works.

You will notice a statue of a man-headed snake statue at the intersection where you turn to St. Paul's well from the main street. That statue is related to the tale of Snake Castle and Tarsus.

Do you have a question about something Turkish? Ask Mehmet. To submit a question, call 676-6060 or e-mail mehmet.birbiri@incirlik.af.mil.

THE INCIRLIK GUIDE

Scuba certification

Want to get certified in scuba diving? Come to the certification class Monday. Cost is \$250 for two lessons in the pool and four dives in the Mediterranean Sea.

For details, call outdoor recreation at 676-6044.

Movie night

There will be a free movie night at the community center Monday starting at 6 p.m. Popcorn and refreshments are provided. For details, call 676-6966.

Paintball referee training

Become a paintball referee. The training is Wednesday at noon. Join the team of volunteer referees and save on playing fees.

For details, call outdoor recreation at 676-6044.

Toastmasters

Toastmasters is the best way to improve communication skills. Lose the fear of public speaking and learn skills.

Meetings are the first and third Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. and the second and fourth Wednesdays at 11 a.m. at the consolidated club.

For more details, e-mail 2carlotta@gmail.com or call 676-2231.

Membership appreciation

Membership appreciation night will be Tuesday from 6 to 8 p.m. at the club complex. The meal is complimentary for all Air Force club members.

For details, call the club at 676-6010.

Fishing boat trip

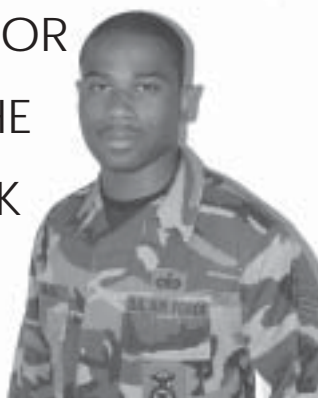
Outdoor recreation is sponsoring a fishing trip in the Mediterranean Sea June 10. The cost is \$25 and bait is included. For details, call outdoor recreation at 676-6044.

Salsa class

The community center offers salsa classes Mondays from 6 to 7 p.m.

For details, call the community center at 676-6966.

WARRIOR OF THE WEEK



Staff Sgt. Roger Kendall Jr.
425th Air Base Group
element leader

Time in service: Eight years and five months

Hometown: Pittsburg, Pa.

Time on station: 11 months

Hobbies: Weightlifting and traveling

Why did you join the Air Force? I joined the Air Force to learn a specific skill that would benefit my professional development, complete my education and serve my country.

What do you like the most about Izmir? Izmir

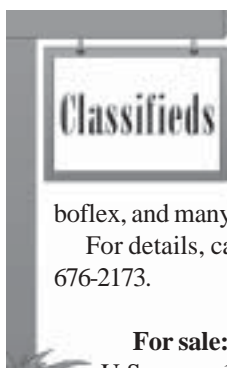
is similar to a resort. The area is surrounded by water and mountains; it is a blessing to be able to have a work experience like this as a cop.

How do you contribute to the mission? I lead a flight of 14 personnel. We are responsible for the safety and security of U.S. facilities and personnel which support our fellow NATO members.

What is your favorite motto? "All or nothing."

What Air Force core value best describes you and why? "Integrity First." In the military you have to adapt to different styles of leadership, missions and people from different walks of life. When an individual proves their integrity must be questioned, this breaks down the foundation of the mission. I cannot adapt to a lack of integrity. I constantly work late to get the job done.

Supervisor's quote: "Sergeant Kendall is my best NCO on flight," said Tech. Sgt. Dana Peele, 425th Air Base Group security forces element leader. "He constantly goes above and beyond the call of his duty. He strives to be the best and motivates his subordinates to follow his example. There is no doubt in my mind that Sergeant Kendall will have an extremely successful Air Force career."



Yard sale: Multi-family yard sale Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon at 3112 A Silifke Ct. Items for sale: patio table, lawn toys,

boflex, and many more.

For details, call Bobbie Bessette at 676-2173.

For sale: 2005 Mini Cooper S, U.S. specs, 12k miles, sport Pkg, P/W, P/L, A/C, Blue Book value is \$25,300, asking \$24,500 OBO.

For details, call Ryan at 676-6287

Foster home needed: For 1.5 year old female dog. Kit gets along with cats and other dogs. I live in the dorms so she can't stay with me, however, when I PCS in Nov. I will be taking her with me. I will take care of exercise and expenses.

For details, call Stacey Moore 676-5304 or e-mail her at Stacey.Moore@incirlik.af.mil.

For sale: The new edition of Fisher Price's Deluxe Jumperoo \$30, Ocean Wonder's Cradle Swing with lights and sound mobile \$50, travel playpen with carrying bag \$20, compact Elliptical Cross trainer \$50.

Everything is either new or has only been

used a few times. For details, call Lydia at 676-5742 leave a message if we're not home.

Knitter wanted: Does your maid or nanny knit? I lost the lady that knits things for me and am looking for someone to knit a few scarves, cardigan jackets and other smaller items. I pay \$25 to \$30 for a sweater jacket and \$5 to \$8 for a scarf. I provide materials. Call 676-5790.



This is the solution for the crossword published in the May 26 *Tip of the Sword*. Crossword puzzles are published in the first *Tip of the Sword* edition of every month. For more information, call 676-6060 or e-mail the *Tip of the Sword* at tip.sword@incirlik.af.mil



Photo by Chaplain (Maj.) Kenneth Reyes

Racking in the big bucks

The Incirlik Combined Spouses' Club presented five base students with scholarships. From left to right, Calvin Singh received a \$2,500 scholarship, Ursula Cambell received a \$1,000 scholarship, Amber Drake received a \$1,500 scholarship, Charmaine Santos received a \$1,000 scholarship and Brett Reyes received a \$1,500 scholarship. Congratulations to all the recipients.

THE INCIRLIK GUIDE

Summer pool party

There will be a summer pool party Saturday from 6 to 10 p.m. at the base pool with free admission to all. There will be relay races, games, bouncy castles, and smokin', smokin' hot grills. Bring the family, friends, food, and fun to start off your summer with a splash.

Class registration

Central Texas College is offering the following vocational-technical courses next term: Creative Arts for Early Childhood, Terrorism as a Strategy of Insurgency, Drug Recognition in Law Enforcement and Torts, and Personal Injury Law. Term V registration ends today and class dates are Monday to July 28.

For details, call the CTC field representative at 676-8399 or e-mail Incirlik@europe.ctcd.edu.

Classified ads

To submit a classified ad to the Tip of the Sword send an e-mail to tip.sword@incirlik.af.mil.



AT THE OASIS

Today

7 p.m. – Take the Lead (PG-13) (1st run) – Starring Antonio Banderas and Rob Brown. A former professional ballroom dancer volunteers at a New York public school to teach dance. (108 minutes)

9:30 p.m. – Failure to Launch (PG-13) – Starring Sarah Jessica Parker and Matthew McConaughey.

A thirty-something man who still lives with his parents falls in love and begins to suspect she has been hired by his parents. (97 minutes)

Saturday

5 p.m. – She's the Man (PG-13) – Starring Amanda Bynes and Channing Tatum. Viola Johnson had her own good reasons for disguising herself as her twin brother Sebastian and enrolling in his place at his new boarding school. (105 minutes)

7:30 p.m. – V for Vendetta (R) – Natalie Portman starring Hugo Weaving. A mild-mannered young woman named Evey is rescued

from a life-and-death situation by a masked vigilante known only as "V."

Sunday

7 p.m. – Take the Lead (PG-13) (1st run) – Antonio Banderas and Rob Brown. (108 minutes)

Thursday

7 p.m. – Failure to Launch (PG-13) – Sarah Jessica Parker and Matthew McConaughey. (97 minutes)

AT THE M1

The Constant Gardener starring Ralph Fiennes and Rachel Weisz at 11:15 a.m. 1:45, 4:15, 6:45 and 9:15 p.m.

Movie listings are subject to changes. On-base listings are courtesy of the Army and Air Force Exchange Service Web site at <http://www.aafes.com/ems/euro/incirlik.htm>; M-1 listings are courtesy of Tepe Cinemaxx Tepe Cinemaxx and their Web site at www.mybilet.com/show_place_detail.aspx?place_id=101. For more Oasis information and updates, call the movie recording at 676-6986 or the theater office at 676-9140.